

AS

GCE ART & DESIGN COMBINED ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE GRID

Syllabuses 8D01/8FA01/8TD01/8TE01/8PY01/8GC/8CC01

All four assessment objectives must be met in each Unit. A mark out of 20 should be awarded for each assessment objective. The four assessment objective marks should then be added together to give a total mark out of 80 for each unit. Strands i), ii) and iii) of Quality of Written Communication (QWC) should be addressed wherever written content is submitted for assessment.

HOW TO USE THE AS COMBINED ASSESSMENT GRID AND GUIDE

The two assessment documents have been combined to aid clarity and reduce the pieces of paper required when making assessment decisions:

- The Assessment Objectives head four columns, under which are Performance Descriptors
- The Levels of Performance are on the left.
- The total marks for each Level of Performance are on the right, with smaller numbers in grey bands, indicating performance between levels
- At the bottom of the document are spaces for centre marks, by unit number, for each Assessment Objective to form a total mark out of 80 for each unit, recorded in the appropriate unit box on the far right

Assessment is a difficult process and must be given sufficient time for consideration, refinement and accurate final decisions:

- Start with feeling informed, by your experience over time, of the performance of present candidate(s) and knowledge gained from Edexcel training and support.
- You will already have made many interim and final assessment decisions.
- Internal and external estimates of grades/marks may have been submitted
- You have considerable knowledge of the relative performance of groups and individuals.
- It is essential to form an *understanding of the Levels of Performance* (Basic, Competent etc).
- It is important to consider *the whole of each Assessment Objective*. Although there is a shorthand title for each AO - Develop, Experiment, Record, Realise etc.
- It is necessary to appreciate the connections and nuances implied within each AO and not to rely entirely on the shorthand

A recommended approach to assessment:

- Start with a middle performing candidate for your cohort
- Using the Performance Descriptors, and based on the work presented, come to a conclusion at which Level the candidate has performed; for example Competent 44 - 60 marks; which is 11 -15 marks for each Assessment Objective
- Decide if the candidate is Low, Medium or High within this Level; let's assume Medium - around 13 marks for each Assessment Objective
- Now assign marks under each AO that reflect the candidate's relative strengths and weaknesses for each AO and using 13 as a median
- Thus the candidate may have AO1 - Develop 13; AO2 - Experiment 15; AO3 - Record 12; AO4 - Realise 11; Total 52 (middle Competent)
- If as you assign marks the total is somewhat different to your initial estimate, reconsider and refine, referring to the performance descriptors and AOs
- Looking at the performance descriptors above and below your estimate can often aid decision making
- Candidates do not necessarily perform within the same level for each AO and marks either above or below the level can be awarded
- This may result in a total mark between two levels
- Find a similarly performing candidate and repeat the process as this will help to inform your judgements.
- It is important that initially all marks should be considered as provisional
- Continue by moving up a little to higher performing candidates and then down from the first candidate until all marks have been completed, constantly referring to the Grid/Guide
- Before making final decisions and the transfer of marks to the OPTEMS, make an order of merit - for each unit and, if a large centre for each endorsement.
- Apart from being a requirement for the visiting moderator, an order of merit highlights possible irregularities in the marking pattern and is extremely beneficial to the centre.

It is dangerous and poor practice:

- To start with the lowest or highest candidate, as this can inflate or deflate marking
- To mark to grades; be aware of grade boundaries and use them to inform your understanding, but the use of grades alone is insufficient for sound marking
- To rely *entirely* on aggregate marks already awarded internally, but do use earlier marking decisions to inform your general understanding of a candidate's performance

Internal Standardisation:

- Please be aware that poor internal standardisation can cause more problems for centres than any other errant marking pattern.
- Internal standardisation only applies to multiple groups/teachers/endorsements from the same centre:
- Check that marks are consistently applied to equally performing candidates from different groups, teachers and endorsements
- Perhaps use 'securely marked candidates' from different groups/teachers/endorsements, as benchmarks to refer to in the internal marking process
- Use the order of merit to make comparative judgements across each endorsement/group